

JC19 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 FEB 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gerhard Schwarz et al. Art Unit : Unknown
 Serial No. : New application Examiner : Unknown
 Filed : February 28, 2002
 Title : ELECTRIC PLUG CONNECTOR

PreAmdt A
 RAB
 4/28/03

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

In the claims:

Amend claims 1-25 as follows:

AI -- 1. (Amended) An electric plug connector, in particular for explosion-proof areas, comprising:

a plug,

a socket including at least a housing and a socket insert supported in said housing such that the socket insert is rotatable between off and on positions, said socket insert being adapted to be rotated between its positions by means of the plug inserted in the socket, and

a locking element supported in the socket insert such that the locking element is displaceable between a locking position and a release position, said locking element being provided with at least one coding projection which, in the condition in which the plug is inserted in the socket insert, is adapted to be arranged in a complementary coding aperture in the plug thus arranging the locking means at its release position, wherein the socket insert is rotatable between the off and on positions when the locking means is in the release position.

2. (Amended) An electric plug connector according to claim 1 wherein the locking element is implemented as a locking pin which is supported in the socket insert such that it is longitudinally displaceable between the locking and release positions essentially in the plug-in direction of the plug.